Review Committee on Outcomes: Survey Results

Prepared by:

Performance Measurement and Reporting Branch
Alberta Education

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Introduction

In the spring of 2000, Alberta Education (previously Alberta Learning) appointed the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO) to consult with Albertans to find out what they expected from the K-12 education system and how these expectations are being met. The committee consisted of stakeholder representatives from the Alberta Home and School Councils' Association, Alberta School Boards' Association, College of Alberta School Superintendents, Association of School Board Officials of Alberta, Alberta Teachers' Association, Public Colleges and Technical Institutions of Alberta, Universities Coordinating Council, and Chamber of Commerce, as well as a parent and a member at large.

This committee worked for more than a year to develop outcomes for the education system by gathering public input on key results for number of areas such as student learning, quality teaching, leadership and governance. In its second year, the committee and its performance measurement sub-committee focused their attention on developing a set of indicators and measures to help determine whether outcomes are being achieved.

Overall, more than 1400 Albertans provided feedback on both the outcomes and measures during the consultation process of RCO. A total of 39 outcomes were established with 80 measures to form a framework that will help establish educational policies and priorities at the system, jurisdictional and school levels. Mostly, these measures are based on views of parents, teachers, students, boards and employers as well as the public besides objective quantitative measurements. It will also provide a basis for monitoring system performance and bringing about continuous improvement over time.

The current report presents the main findings of the 2005 Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys (which are telephone surveys of the public, teachers, school board members, senior high school students and parents of kindergarten to Grade 12 students) that related to 28 RCO outcomes and 34 survey measures for the kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. These satisfaction surveys are conducted annually by Alberta Education to obtain perceptions on how the education system is performing in meeting learners' and society's needs and expectations. 2004 was the first year that questions based on the RCO measures were included in the surveys. Similarly, 2004 was the first year that school board members and teachers were surveyed. The analysis of the results in this report is based on a rolled-up summary percentage for all questions in the measure for each respondent group. For each measure, overall results are calculated based on average of rolled-up summary percentages for the related respondent groups. A historical perspective of results is provided, where possible, through comparison of 2005 results with those obtained in 2004.

In the survey, some respondent groups were excluded from certain questions, (although they were initially included as respondents when the RCO measures were developed), because those questions were considered to require a significant amount of background knowledge not normally available to those groups. The 2005 satisfaction surveys were conducted from February 2 to March 15, 2005.

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Executive Summary

This report presents an analysis of the survey results for measures based on the work of the Review Committee on Outcomes. The survey questions were included in the 2005 Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys of the public, teachers, school board members, senior high school students and parents of kindergarten to Grade 12 students. Highlights of the results and opportunities for improvement are given below.

Highlights

- The vast majority (92%) of teachers, parents, students and board members agreed that students are safe, are treated fairly and are learning the importance of caring and respect for others in school. Agreement ranged from 87% for parents to 94% for students and board members.

- The vast majority (89%) of students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards.

- A majority (86%) of parents, teachers and board members agreed that Alberta Education, school boards and schools use the results of student, teacher, program, school and school system evaluation to improve student learning.

- The majority (85%) of high school students, parents, teachers, board members and public respondents agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. Respondents' agreement ranged from 78% for high school students to 90% for teachers and board members.

- A majority (85%) of students, parents, teachers and the public were satisfied that school facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community. Among the respondent groups, students (91%) expressed the highest level of satisfaction and teachers (70%) expressed the least satisfaction.

- A high proportion (84%) of high school students, parents, teachers, board members and public respondents reported that they were satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta. Respondents' satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta varied widely from 67% for the public respondents to 91% for high school students.

- A large majority (84%) of teachers, parents and board members were satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. Respondents' satisfaction level varied from 77 % for parents to 85% for teachers.

- The majority (83%) of high school students, parents, teachers, board members and the public were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in the core subjects (language arts, mathematics, science and social studies). Satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in the core subjects varied from 74% for the public to 91% for high school students.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Overall, 69% of parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that leadership at the school, school board and the provincial level effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning. Board members' level of satisfaction was highest (73%) and teachers' level of satisfaction was lowest (64%) among the respondent groups.

- 65% of teachers and 69% of board members agreed that recent Bachelor of Education graduates in Alberta are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers.

- Relatively few (60%) teachers, parents, board members and public respondents were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by their school board. The respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 46% for the public to 91% for the board.

- 57% of parents, teachers, board members and the public were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. Among the respondents, board members had the highest (69%) level of satisfaction and teachers had the lowest (50%) level of satisfaction regarding the perception that learning system is highly accountable and communicate effectively with the public.

- 54% of teachers and board members were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff.

- 45% of teachers, parents, board members and public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. The respondents' satisfaction level varied between 28% for teachers to 67% for board members.

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Student Learning

RCO OUTCOME A.1a: Students receive a broad program of studies including: a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Measure A.1a.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Overall Results: Overall, 83% of high school students, parents, teachers, board members and the public were satisfied that students were receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Respondents' overall satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in these core subjects is consistent with the previous survey period (see *Chart 1*).

Chart 1
Overall Satisfaction that Students are Receiving a Solid Grounding in Core Subjects

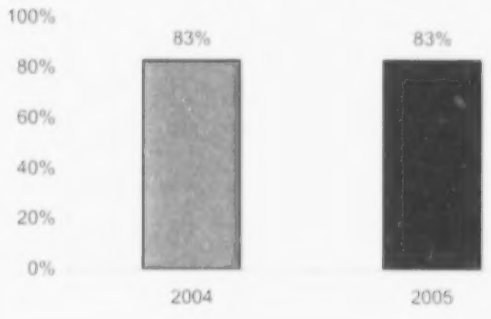
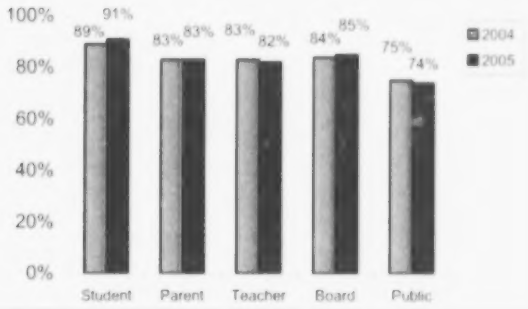


Chart 2
Satisfaction that Students are Receiving a Solid Grounding in Core Subjects - By Respondent Group



Individual respondent groups differed somewhat in their satisfaction levels with this measure. Over 80% of high school students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Fewer (74%) public respondents were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Respondents' satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in these core subjects is similar to the previous survey period (see *Chart 2*).

RCO OUTCOME A.1b: Students receive a broad program of studies including: instruction in the fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and where appropriate, religious education.

Measure A.1b.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education.

Overall Results: Overall, 78% of high school students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including the fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education. Respondents' overall rating on the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies at school has not changed significantly since the previous survey period (see *Chart 3*).

Chart 3
Overall Satisfaction with the Opportunity for Students to Receive a Broad Program of Studies

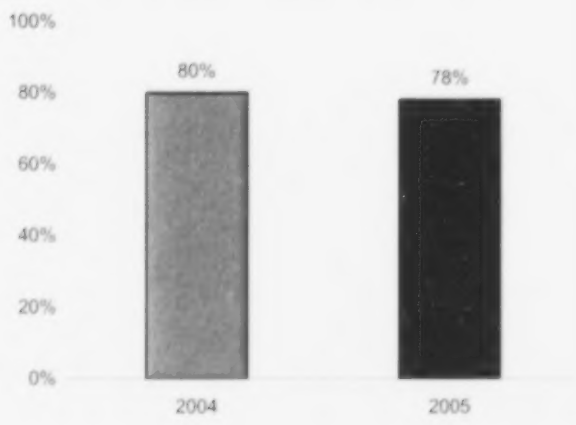
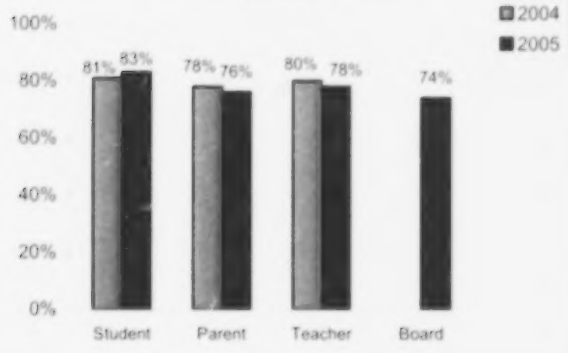


Chart 4
Satisfaction with the Opportunity for Students in Receiving a Broad Program of Studies



Looking at each respondent group individually, 83% of high school students, 76% of parents, 78% of teachers and 74% of board members were satisfied with the availability of a variety of subjects and the opportunity for students to learn about music, drama, art, computers, health and another language in schools (see *Chart 4*). Satisfaction with the variety of subjects available to students and opportunity for them to learn these subjects at school has not changed significantly since the previous survey period. In 2004, board members were not included in this survey measure.

RCO OUTCOME A.4: The learning system contributes to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development.

Measure A.4.2: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that the learning system is contributing to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development.

Overall Results: Overall, 67% parent, teacher, board and public respondents were satisfied with the contribution of the learning system to the development of students' intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual skills. The overall level of respondent satisfaction is consistent with the results of the 2004 survey (see *Chart 5*).

Chart 5
Overall Satisfaction that the Learning System is Contributing to Students' Development of Skills and Abilities

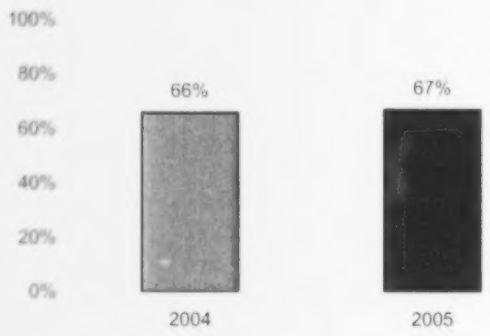
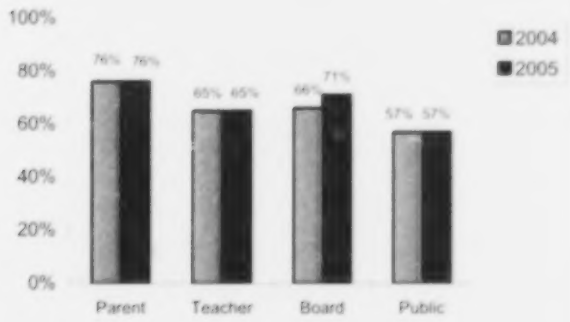


Chart 6
Satisfaction that the Learning System is Contributing to the Students' Development of Skills and Abilities - By Respondent Group



Over 70% of parents and board members were satisfied that the learning system is contributing to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development. However, teachers and the public were less satisfied (57-65%) with the contribution of the learning system to the development of student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional, physical and spiritual skills and abilities. No significant differences were observed over time. Students were not included in this survey measure (see *Chart 6*).

Measure A.4.3: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta.

Overall Results: Overall, a large majority (84%) of students, parents, teachers, board members and the public reported that they were satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta. Respondent satisfaction with the quality of education has remained stable since the previous survey period (see *Chart 7*).

Chart 7
Overall Satisfaction with Quality of Education

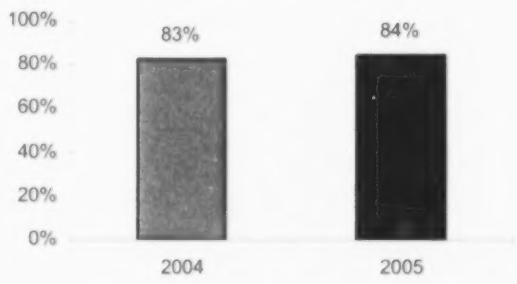
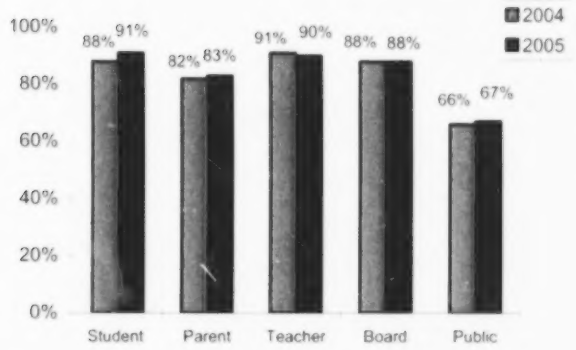


Chart 8
Satisfaction with Quality of Education - By Respondent Group



Broken down by respondent group, 91% of high school students, 83% of parents, 90% of teachers and 88% of board members were satisfied with the overall quality of education in the province. However, substantially fewer (67%) public reported that they are satisfied with the overall quality of education in the province. Satisfaction with the quality of education has not changed significantly since the previous survey period. (see *Chart 8*).

RCO OUTCOME A.6: Students demonstrate active citizenship.

Measure A.6.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board satisfaction that student model the characteristics of active citizenship.

Overall Results: Overall, 85% of students, parent, teacher and board members agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. Respondent agreement that students model the characteristics of active citizenship is similar to that of the previous survey period (see *Chart 9*).

Chart 9
Overall Satisfaction that Students Model the Characteristics of Active Citizenship

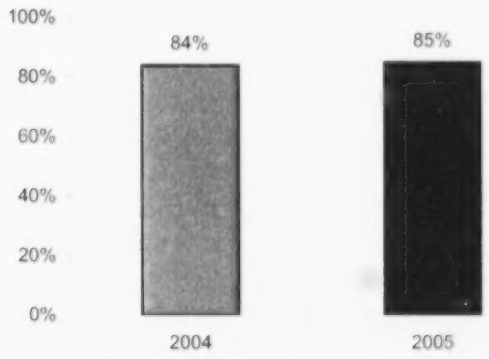
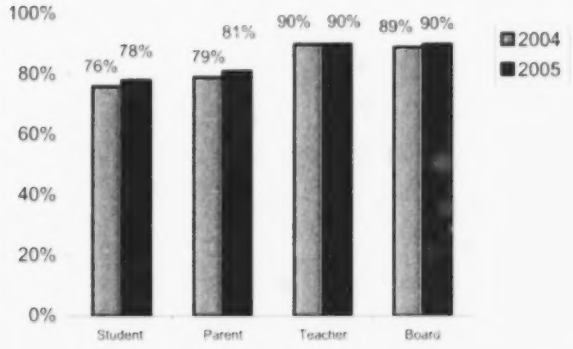


Chart 10
Satisfaction that Students Model the Characteristics of Active Citizenship - By Respondent Group



In general, relatively high percentages (90%) of teachers and board members agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship, as compared to 81% of parents and 78% of students. No significant differences were observed over time. Public was not included in this survey measure (see *Chart 10*).

RCO OUTCOME A.7: Students demonstrate the skills and attitudes for life-long learning.

Measure A.7.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, employer and post-secondary instructor satisfaction that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning.

Overall Results: Overall, 67% of parents, teachers and public respondents agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning. Respondents' agreement in this measure is consistent with the previous survey period (see *Chart 11*).

Chart 11
Overall Satisfaction that High School Graduates Demonstrate the Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes Necessary for Life-long Learning

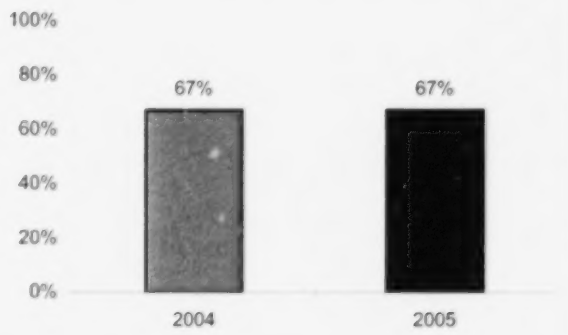
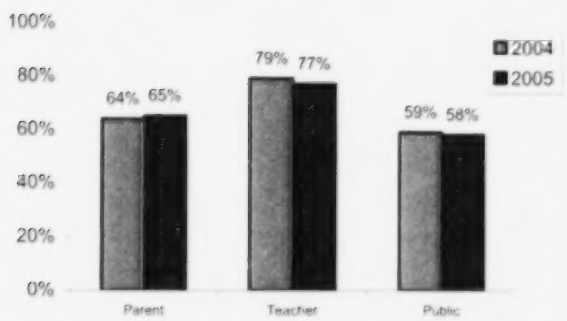


Chart 12
Satisfaction that High School Graduates Demonstrate the Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes Necessary for Life-Long Learning - By Respondent Group



In general, 77% of the teachers agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning. However, fewer parents (65%) and public respondents (58%) agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the necessary attributes for life-long learning. There were no significant differences in respondents' agreements for this measure between 2004 and 2005 (see *Chart 12*).

RCO OUTCOME A.8: Students demonstrate preparedness for work.

Measure A.8.2: Percentage of teacher, parent and board agreement that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work.

Overall Results: For this measure, teachers, parents, boards and the public were asked to rate their agreement on attitudes and behaviours taught to the students to be successful at work. Overall, 73% of teachers, parents, board members and public agreed that high school students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work. Respondents' agreement on this measure has been stable over the past two years (see *Chart 13*).

Chart 13
Overall Agreement that Student have Attitudes to be Successful in the World of Work

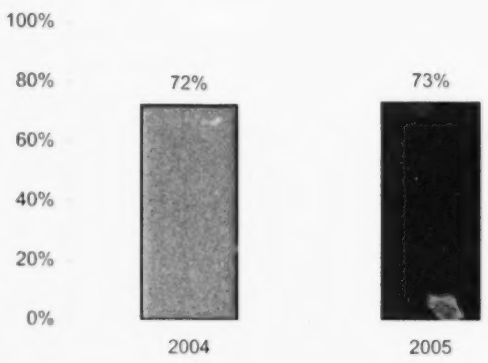
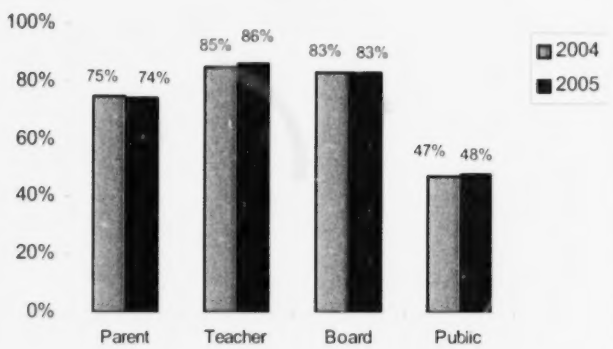


Chart 14
Agreement that Students have Attitudes to be Successful in the World of Work - By Respondent Group



In general, 86% of teachers, 83% of board members and 74% of parents were satisfied that students are taught attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work. However, fewer public respondents (48%) agreed that students are taught attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work. No significant differences were observed over time (see *Chart 14*).

Opportunity to Learn

RCO OUTCOME B.1: Each student comes to school ready to learn.

Measure B.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that students arrive at school ready to learn.

Overall Results: Overall, 82% of teachers, parents and board members agreed that students arrive at school ready to learn. Respondents' agreement on this measure has been stable over the last two years (see *Chart 15*).

Chart 15
Overall Agreement that Students Arrive at School Ready to Learn

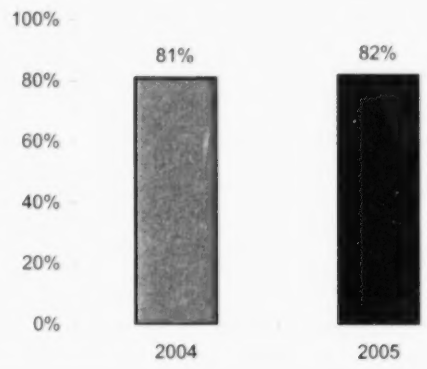
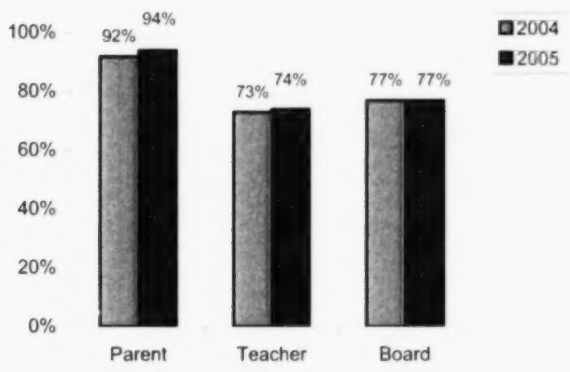


Chart 16
Agreement that Students Arrive at School Ready to Learn - By Respondent Group



Almost all parents (94%) agreed that students arrive at school ready to learn. However, fewer board members (77%) and teachers (74%) agreed that students arrive at school ready to learn. Agreement levels are similar to 2004. Students and public were not part of this survey measure (see *Chart 16*).

RCO OUTCOME B.2: Students are provided assistance and support to ensure equitable opportunity to learn.

Measure B.2.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.

Overall Results: Overall, 76% of teachers, parents, students and board members were satisfied with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community (see *Chart 17*). Several new questions were added to the overall roll-up for this measure in the 2005 survey, which may have had an impact on results.

Chart 17
Overall Satisfaction with the Accessibility, Effectiveness and Efficiency of Programs and Services

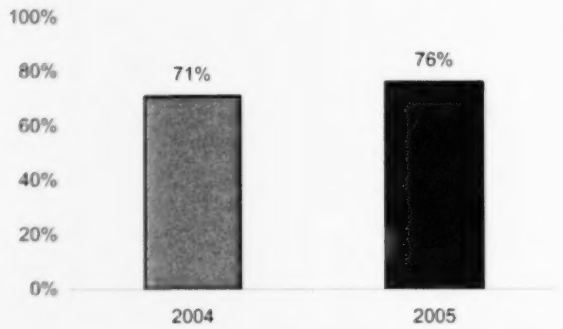
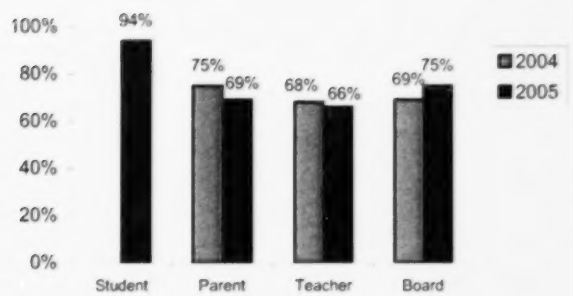


Chart 18
Satisfaction with the Accessibility, Effectiveness and Efficiency of Programs and Services - By Respondent Group



Almost all students (94%) satisfied that they are provided with the programs and services they need to learn at school. However, fewer board members (75%), parents (69%) and teachers (66%) satisfied that students are provided with the efficient and effective programs and services they need to learn at school. Satisfaction with the programs and services has not changed significantly since the previous survey period (see *Chart 18*). It should be noted that students were not asked the set of questions for this measure in 2004.

RCO OUTCOME B.3: Children at risk have their needs addressed through effective coordinated programs and supports.

Measure B.3.1: The percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely.

Overall Results: Overall, 81% of teachers, parents, students and board members agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. Overall agreement on programs for children at risk is similar to that observed in 2004 (see *Chart 19*).

Chart 19
Overall Agreement that Programs for Chioldren at Risk are Easy to Access and Timely

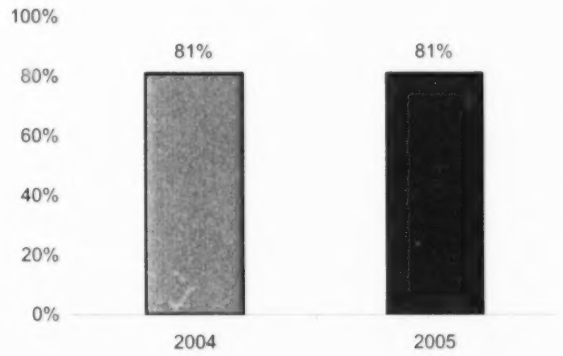
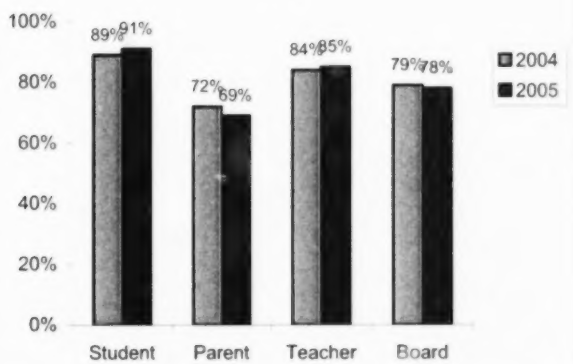


Chart 20
Agreement that Programs for Children at Risk are Easy to Access and Timely - By Respondent Group



A large majority of students (91%) and teachers (85%) agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. However, relatively fewer parents (69%) and board members (78%) agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. Agreement levels are similar to 2004 (see *Chart 20*).

RCO OUTCOME B.4: A safe and caring school environment facilitates student learning in an atmosphere of trust, respect and inclusiveness.

Measure B.4: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.

Overall Results: Overall, 92% of teachers, parents, students and board members agreed that students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly at school. Results for this measure are consistent with the previous survey (see *Chart 21*).

Chart 21
Overall Agreement that Students are Safe, Treated Fairly and Are Learning the Importance of Caring and Respect

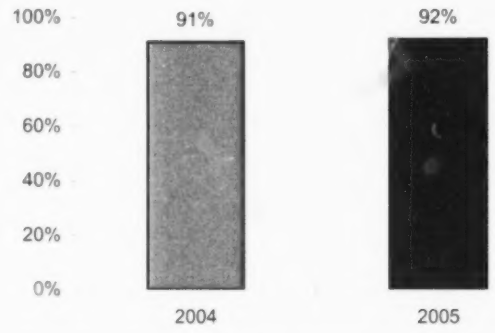
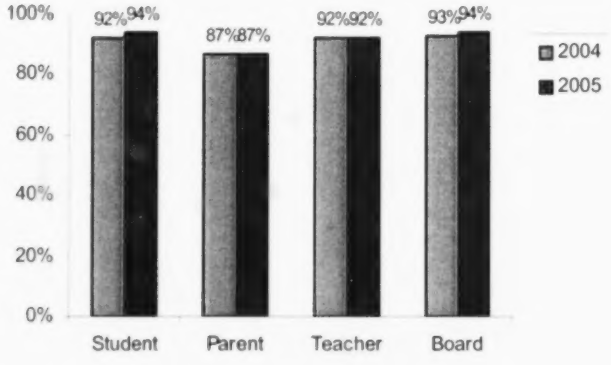


Chart 22
Agreement that Students are Safe, Treated Fairly at School and Are Learning the Importance of Caring and Respect - By Respondent Group



Over 90% of respondents in three of the respondent groups (students, teachers and board members) agreed that students are safe, treated fairly at school and are learning the importance of caring and respect for others. 87% of parents agreed that students are safe, treated fairly at school and are learning the importance of caring and respect for others. Respondents' agreement is similar to that of the previous survey period (see *Chart 22*).

RCO OUTCOME B.5: Appropriately-sized groups and settings allow teachers to meet the diverse, individual learning needs of students.

Measure B.5: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that the individual student is receiving the individual attention they require appropriate to their learning needs in their school.

Overall Results: Overall, 74% students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that each student receives the individual attention they require at school. The observed difference in satisfaction levels between 2004 and 2005 is not large enough to rule out sampling variation (see *Chart 23*).

Chart 23
Overall Satisfaction that Students Receive the Individual Attention They Require

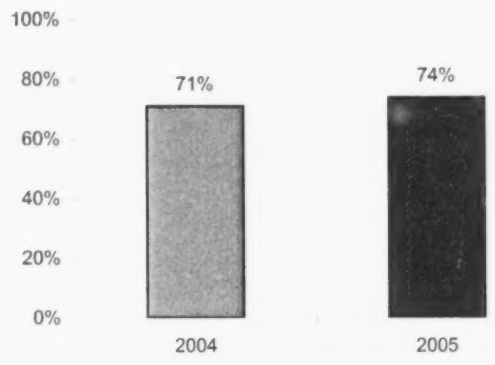
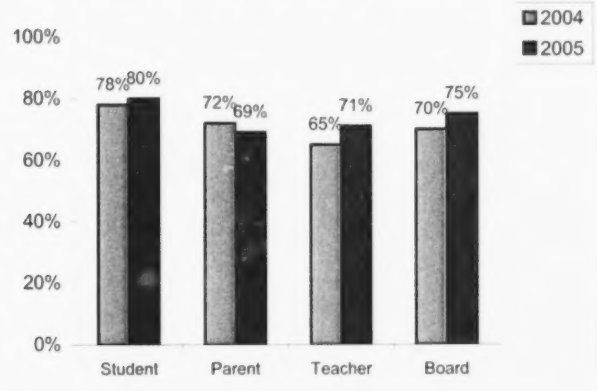


Chart 24
Satisfaction the Students Receive the Individual Attention They Require - By Respondent Group



In general, 80% of students, 71% of teachers, 69% of parents, and 75% of board members were satisfied that students receive the individual attention they need at school. There were no significant differences in respondents' satisfaction levels for this measure between 2004 and 2005 (see *Chart 24*).

RCO OUTCOME B.6: Students utilize appropriate learning resources.

Measure B.6: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction that student learning resources are a) available, b) current, appropriate and support curriculum outcomes and c) meet the learning needs of students.

Overall Results: Overall, 85% of teachers, parents, students and board members were satisfied that the student learning resources (such as text books, audio and video materials) that are available at schools meet student needs. Respondents' agreement has been stable since 2004 (see *Chart 25*).

Chart 25
Overall Satisfaction that Learning Resources Meet the Needs of Students

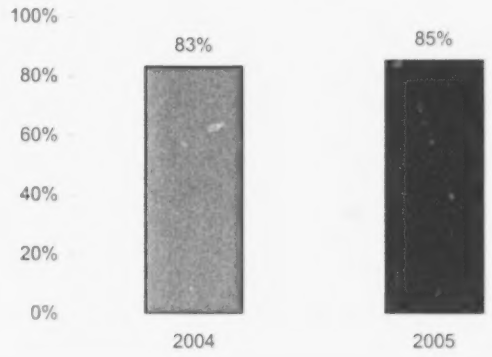
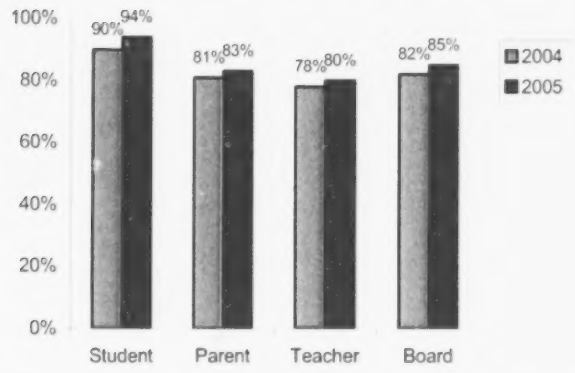


Chart 26
Satisfaction that Learning Resources Meet the Needs of Students - By Respondent Group



A majority of students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that the student learning resources meet student needs. Their level of satisfaction ranged from 80% to 94%. No significant differences in respondents' satisfaction levels were observed between the two survey periods (see *Chart 26*).

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Involvement

RCO OUTCOME C.1: Parents are involved meaningfully in their children's education.

Measure C.1.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, student and board satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.

Overall Results: Overall, 84% of teachers, parents and board members were satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. Respondents' overall satisfaction is consistent with the previous survey period (see *Chart 27*).

Chart 27
Overall Satisfaction with Parental Involvement in Decisions About Their Child's Education

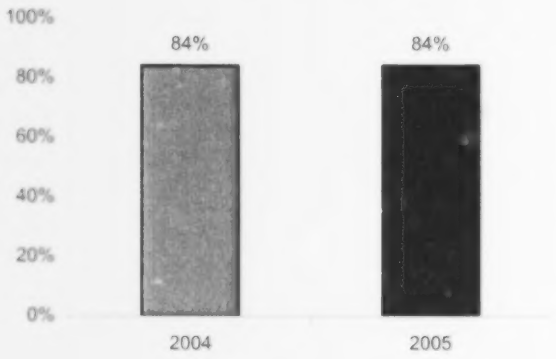
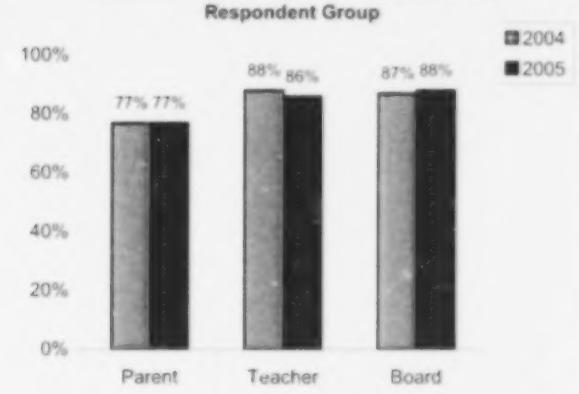


Chart 28
Satisfaction with Parental Involvement in Decisions About Their Child's Education - By Respondent Group



There was some variation between satisfaction levels for the different respondent groups. Over 85% of teachers and board members were satisfied with the parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. However, relatively fewer parents (77%) were satisfied with their involvement in decisions about their child's education. Satisfaction levels were similar to the previous survey (see *Chart 28*).

RCO OUTCOME C.2: The voices of students, parents, staff and the community are heard, respected and valued.

Measure C.2.1: The percentage of parent, public, student and staff satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the board.

Overall Results: Overall, 60% of teachers, parents, board members and public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the board. Respondents' satisfaction level in this measure has been stable since the previous survey period (see *Chart 29*).

Chart 29
Overall Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Board

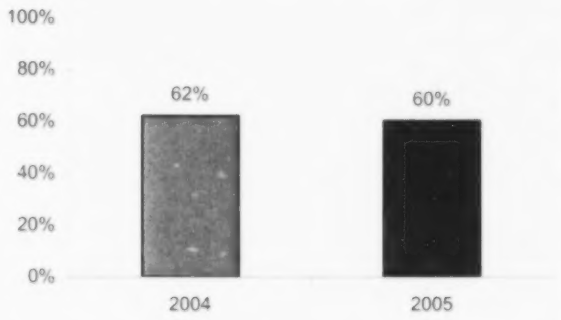
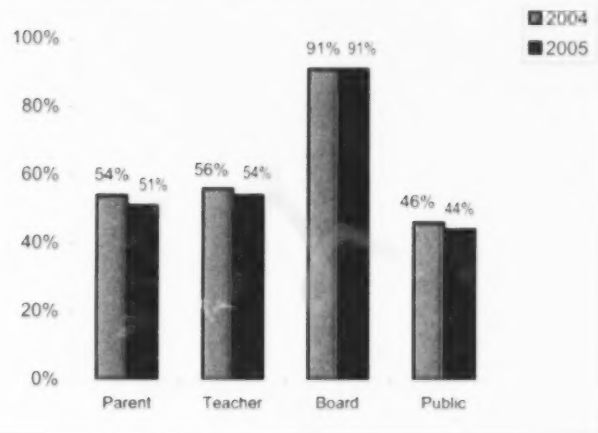


Chart 30
Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Board - By Respondent Group



Respondents' satisfaction that their input into the education of students is considered, respected and valued by board varied widely. 91% of board members were satisfied that the school board considered the parent and guardian input into education of students. Relatively fewer parents (51%), teachers (54%) and public respondents (44%) were satisfied that the board considered their input into the education of students. Respondents' satisfaction levels were similar to the previous survey period (see *Chart 30*).

Measure C.2.2: The percentage of parent, public, student, staff and board satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province.

Overall Results: Overall, 45% of teachers, parents, board members and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. Overall satisfaction was similar to the previous survey period (see *Chart 31*).

Chart 31
Overall Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Province

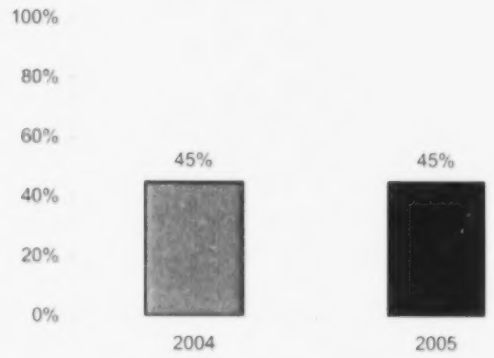
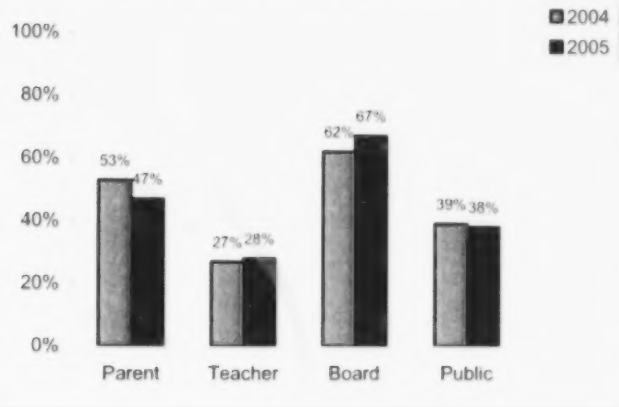


Chart 32
Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Province - By Respondent Group



Respondents' satisfaction that their input into the education of students was considered by province varied widely. Overall, 67% of board members were satisfied that their input is considered by province. However, significantly fewer (28%-47%) teachers, parents and public were satisfied that their input is considered by the province. No significant differences in respondents' satisfaction levels concerning this measure were noted between two surveys in 2004 and 2005 (see *Chart 32*).

Measure C.2.3: The percentage of parent, public, student, staff and board satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school.

Overall Results: Overall, 67% of students, teachers and public respondents were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. There was no significant difference between the 2004 and 2005 survey results for this measure (see *Chart 33*).

Chart 33
Overall Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the School

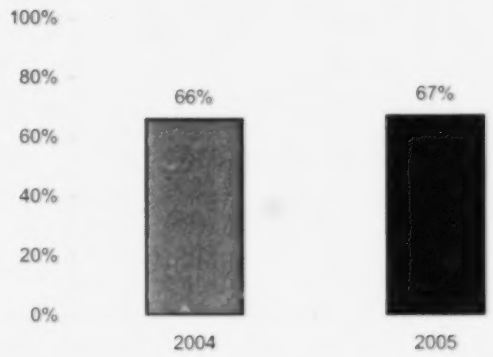
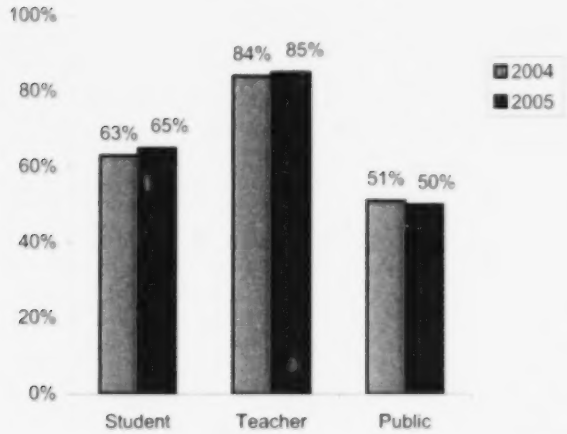


Chart 34
Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the School - By Respondent Group



There was significant variation between the responses of different respondent groups. 85% of teachers were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. However, only 65% students and 50% of the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. Respondents' satisfaction levels were similar to the previous survey periods (see *Chart 34*).

RCO OUTCOME C.4: School Councils fulfill their advisory role.

Measure C.4.1: Percentage of teacher, parent (at large), board and council agreement that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role.

Overall Results: Overall, 85% of parents agreed that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role. The parents' satisfaction level was consistent with the findings of the previous survey (see *Chart 35*). Only parents were part of this survey measure.

Chart 35
Overall Satisfaction that School Councils are Fulfilling their Advisory Role

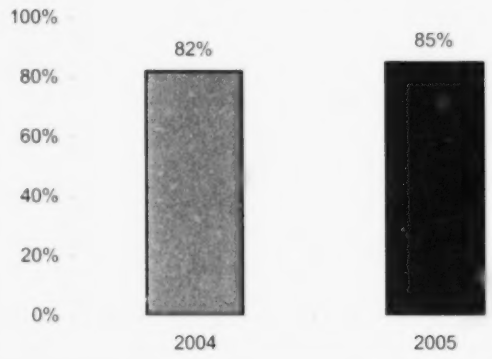
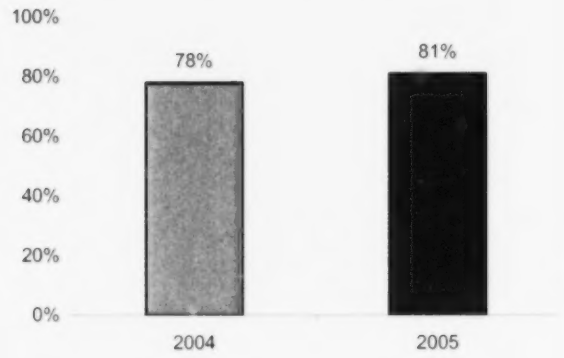


Chart 36
Overall Satisfaction That School Council Influences Decisions Made at School



Measure C.4.2: Parent perception that school councils influence decisions made at their child's school.

Overall Results: Overall, 81% of parents agreed that school councils influence decisions made at their child's school. Satisfaction levels have been stable since 2004 (see *Chart 36*). Only parents were part of this survey measure.

Teaching and the Profession of Teaching

RCO OUTCOME D.2: A positive teacher-student relationship exists.

Measure D.2: The percentage of parent, student and teacher agreement that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students.

Overall Results: Overall, 88% of parents, students and teachers agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. Results were similar to the previous survey (see *Chart 37*).

Chart 37
Overall Agreement that There is Mutual Respect and Trust Between Teachers and Students

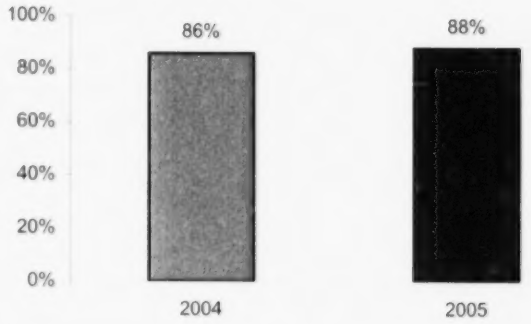
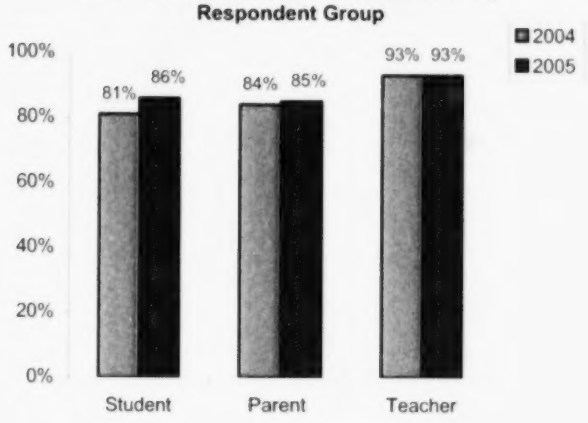


Chart 38
Agreement that There is Mutual Respect and Trust Between Teachers and Students - By Respondent Group



Majority (88%) of parents, students and teachers agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. Agreement levels were similar to the previous survey (see *Chart 38*).

RCO OUTCOME D.3: Effective teaching and learning practices are fostered and valued.

Measure D.3.2: Percentage of teacher, principal, parent, student and board satisfaction that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards.

Overall Results: Overall, 89% of students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Respondents' satisfaction levels were similar to the previous survey (see *Chart 39*).

Chart 39
Overall Satisfaction that Teachers Help Students Achieve Learning Expectations and High Standards

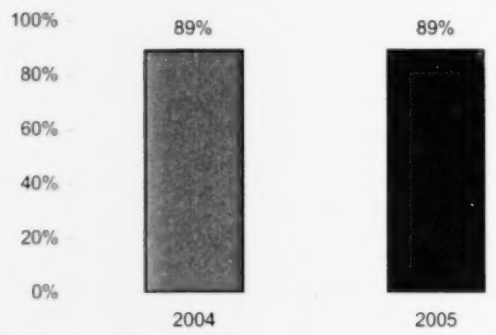
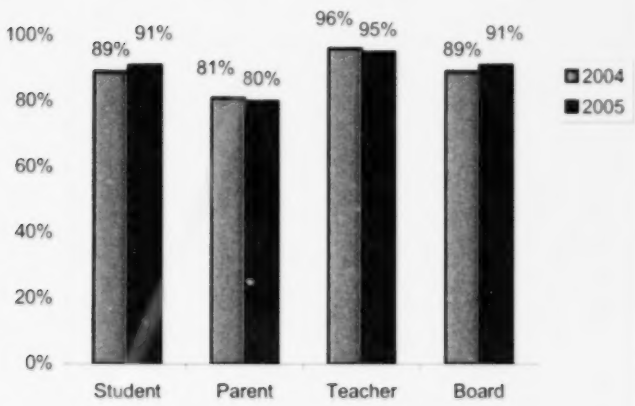


Chart 40
Satisfaction that Teachers Help Students Achieve Learning Expectations and High Standards - By Respondent Group



Over 90% of students, teachers and board members agreed that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. However, comparatively fewer (80%) parents agreed that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Respondents' satisfaction levels have been stable since 2004 (see *Chart 40*).

RCO OUTCOME D.4: High-quality, accessible teacher education programs and stringent teacher certification requirements exist.

Measure D.4.1: Percentage of teacher, principal and board agreement that new Alberta B.Eds are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers.

Overall Results: Overall, 67% of teachers and board members agreed that recent graduates are well prepared to meet responsibilities as teachers. Overall agreement is similar to the previous survey period (see *Chart 41*).

Chart 41
Overall Agreement that New Alberta B.Eds are Well Prepared to Meet Their Responsibilities as Teachers

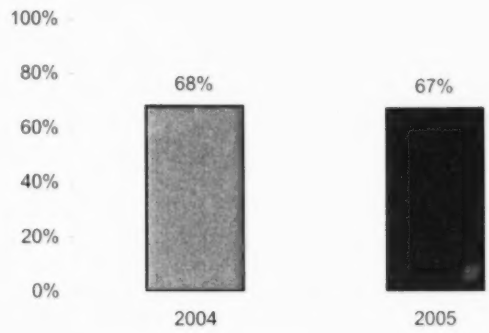
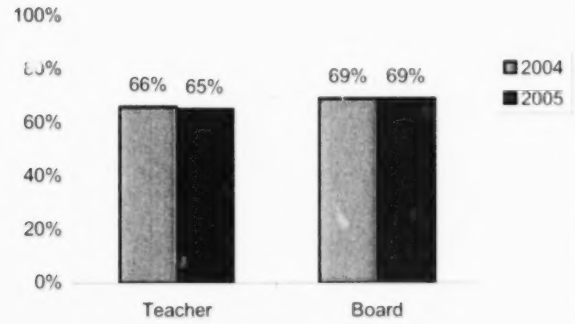


Chart 42
Agreement that New Alberta B.Eds are Well Prepared to Meet Their Responsibilities as Teachers - By Respondent Group



In general, 69% of board members and 65% of teachers agreed that recent Bachelor of Education graduates are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers. Respondents' agreement levels have been stable since 2004 (see *Chart 42*).

RCO OUTCOME D.5: Teaching is recognized as a profession and teachers exercise their judgment and authority consistent with their professional rights and responsibilities.

Measure D.5: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that teaching is a profession requiring its members to: a) have specialized knowledge and skills, b) apply their specialized knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment, c) provide a service to society.

Overall Results: Overall, 94% of students, parents, teachers, board members and public agreed that teachers have specialized knowledge and skills, apply knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment and that they provide a service to society. Respondents' agreement level in this measure is similar to that of the respondents in 2004 survey (see *Chart 43*).

Chart 43
Overall Agreement about the Teaching Profession

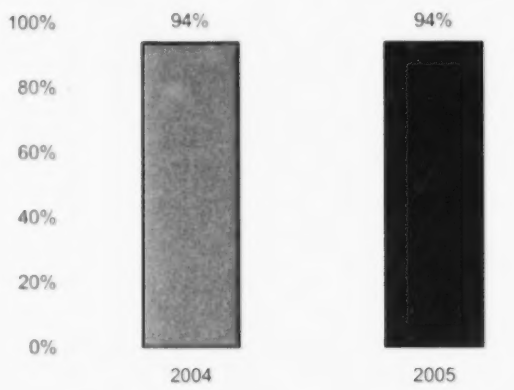
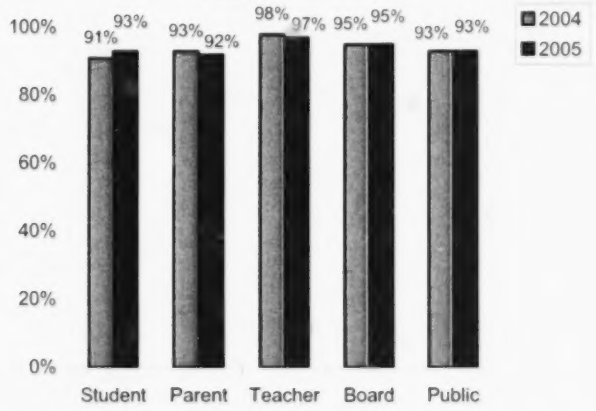


Chart 44
Agreement about the Teaching Profession - By Respondent Group



The vast majority all respondent groups; students (93%), parents (92%), teachers (97%), board members (95%) and the public (93%), agreed that teachers are knowledgeable about the subjects they teach, have specialized knowledge and skills, apply their knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment and that they provide a very valuable service to society. Respondents' agreement levels have been stable since previous survey period (see *Chart 44*).

RCO OUTCOME D.6: Ongoing professional growth is fostered through systematic professional development.

Measure D.6: Percentage of teachers and boards reporting that in the past 3-5 years the professional development and in-servicing received from the school authority has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth.

Overall Results: Overall, 79% of teachers and board members agreed that in-services received by teachers from the school authority have been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth. Respondents' overall agreement has not changed significantly since the previous survey period (see *Chart 45*). A new question was added to this measure in 2005.

Chart 45
Overall Agreement on Professional Development

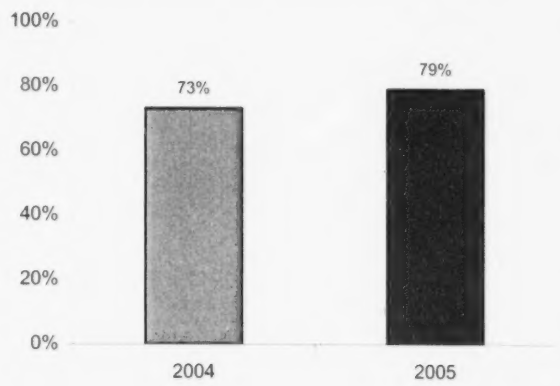
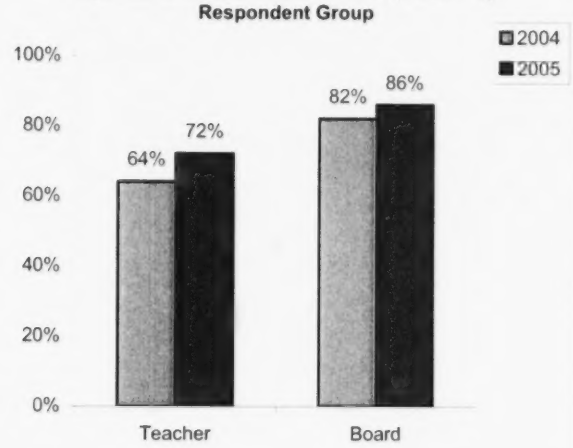


Chart 46
Agreement on Professional Development - By Respondent Group



In general, more board members than teachers agreed that in-services received by teachers from the school authority have addressed teachers' professional development needs and contributed to on-going professional development (see *Chart 46*). A comparison of results over time indicates that teachers' agreement levels have increased significantly since the previous survey period. However, this increase may be due to the inclusion of a new question in this measure in 2005. Consequently, these results should be interpreted with caution.

Leadership and Governance

RCO OUTCOME E.1: The highest priority of the learning system is the success of each student.

Measure E.1.1: Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that the highest priority of the learning system is the success of the student.

Overall Results: Overall, 74% of parents, teachers, board members and public agreed that the highest priority of education system is the success of the student. Results have been consistent over time (see *Chart 47*).

Chart 47
Overall Agreement that the Highest Priority of the Learning System is the Success of the Student

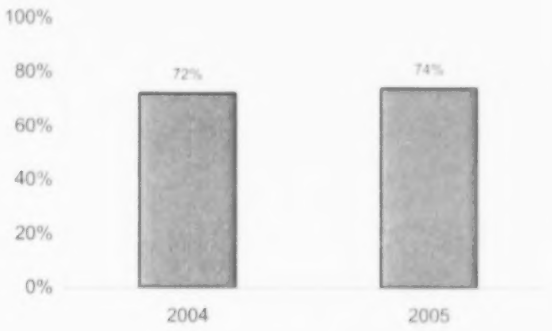
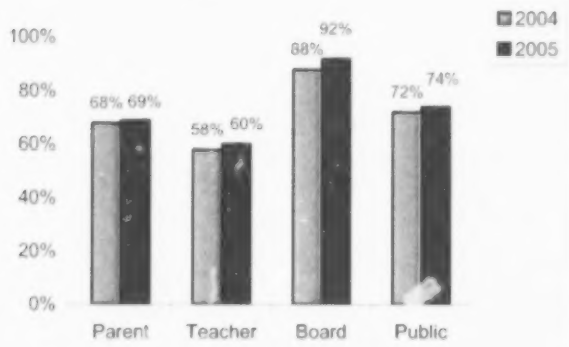


Chart 48
Agreement that the Highest Priority of the Learning System is the Success of the Student - By Respondent Group



The vast majority (92%) of board members agreed that the highest priority of the Alberta's education system is the success of the student. However, there was a large degree of variation between respondent groups' perceptions. Only 74% of public respondents, 69% of parents and 60% of teachers agreed that the highest priority of Alberta's education system is the success of the student (see *Chart 48*). Respondents' levels of agreement have not changed significantly since the previous survey period.

RCO OUTCOME E.2: The learning system is characterized by ongoing school improvement.

Measure E.2.1: Percentage of teachers, parents and board indicating that their school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.

Overall Results: Overall, 78% of parents, teachers, board members and students reported that their school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the past three years. The results for this measure are not significantly different from the 2004 survey (see *Chart 49*).

Chart 49
Overall Agreement on the Improvement of Schools

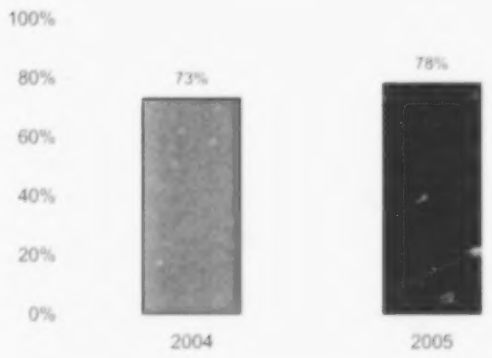
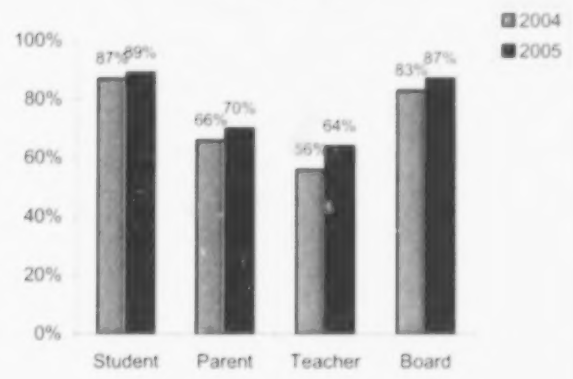


Chart 50
Agreement on Improvement of School and Schools in the Jurisdiction

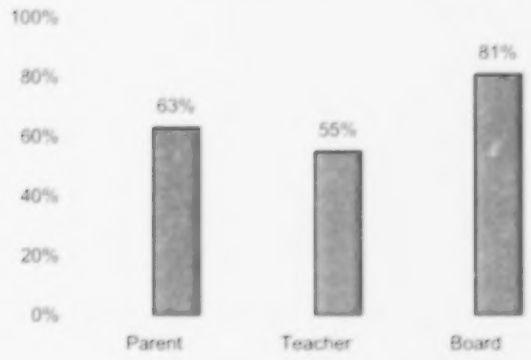


Very high proportions of students (89%) and board members (87%) agreed that their school and school(s) in their jurisdictions have improved or stayed the same in the last three years. Relatively fewer parents (70%) and teachers (64%) thought that their school had improved or stayed the same. A comparison of the results indicates that teachers' perceptions appear to have changed somewhat since the previous survey period (see *Chart 50*).

Measure E.2.2: Percentage of teachers, parents and board indicating that the Alberta learning system has improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.

Overall Results: Overall, 66% of parents, teachers and board members reported that Alberta's education system has improved or stayed the same in the past three years. This is a new measure for the 2005 survey.

Chart 51
Agreement on the Improvement of the K - 12 System



A large majority (81%) of board members reported that quality of the Alberta K to 12 system has improved or stayed the same in the past three years. However, relatively fewer parents (63%) and teachers (55%) agreed that the quality of the Alberta K to 12 system has improved or stayed the same in the past three years (see *Chart 51*).

RCO OUTCOME E.3: Consultation, research and commitment to principles guide policy decisions in the learning system.

Measure E.3: The percentage of teacher, parent, public, student and board agreement that that the learning system is committed to consultation, research and principles of the *School Act*.

Overall Results: Overall, 59% of parents, teachers, board members and the public agreed that the learning system is committed to consultation, research and the principles of the *School Act*. Respondents' agreement level was similar to that of the 2004 survey (see *Chart 52*).

Chart 52
Overall Agreement that the Learning System is Committed to Consultation, Research, and the Principles of the *School Act*

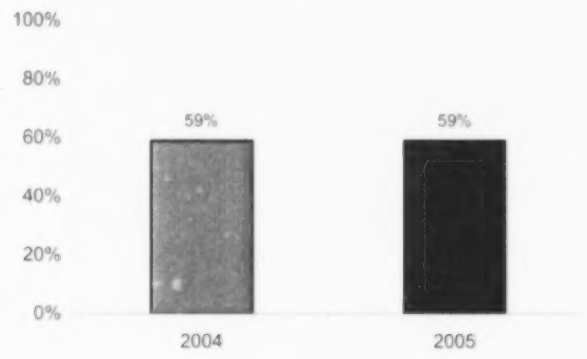
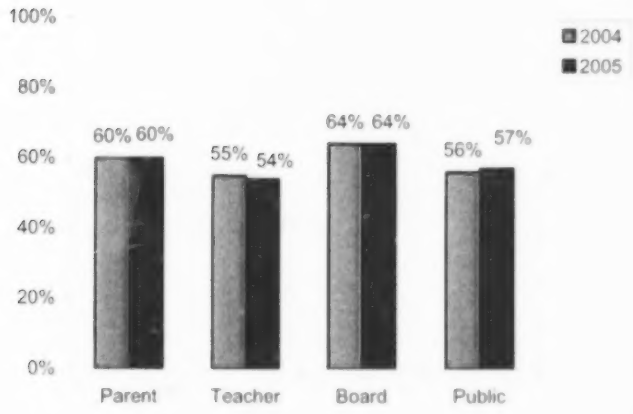


Chart 53
Agreement that the Learning System is Committed to Consultation, Research, and the Principles of the *School Act* - By Respondent Group



In general, 54% to 64% of parents, teachers, board members and the public agreed that the education system is committed to consultation, research and the principles of the *School Act*. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with the previous survey period (see *Chart 53*).

RCO OUTCOME E.4: Student learning is supported by evaluation practices that provide information about important outcomes.

Measure E.4: The percentage of teacher, parent, student, stakeholder and board agreement that Alberta Education, school jurisdictions and schools use the results of student, teacher, program, school and school system evaluation to improve student learning.

Overall Results: Overall, 86% of parents, teachers and board members agreed that the Alberta Education and/or school jurisdictions and/or schools use ongoing evaluation to improve student learning. The overall agreement level is similar to that of the 2004 survey (see *Chart 54*).

Chart 54
Overall Agreement that Alberta Education, School Jurisdictions, and Schools Use On-going Evaluation to Improve Student Learning

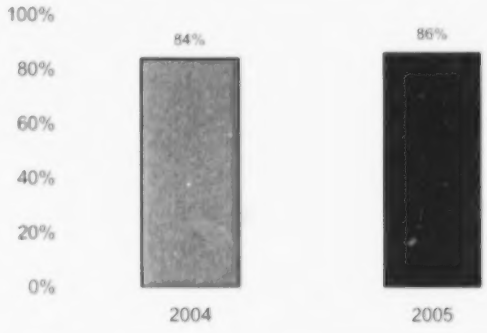
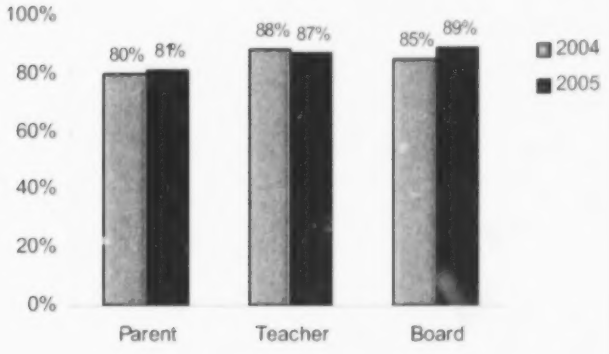


Chart 55
Agreement that Alberta Learning, School Jurisdiction, and School Use On-going Evaluation to Improve Student Learning



In general, a strong majority (over 80%) of respondents agreed that Alberta Education/school jurisdictions/schools use ongoing evaluation to improve student learning. Respondents' agreement levels have been stable since previous survey period (see *Chart 55*).

RCO OUTCOME E.7: All elements of the learning system are highly accountable and communicate effectively with the public.

Measure E.7: Percentage of teacher, parent, public and board satisfaction that the learning system (government, jurisdictions, schools) is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public.

Overall Results: Overall, 57% of parents, teachers, board members and the public were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. There has been no change in the level of satisfaction with learning system since the previous survey period (see *Chart 56*).

Chart 56
Overall Satisfaction that Learning System is Highly Accountable and Communicates Effectively with the Public

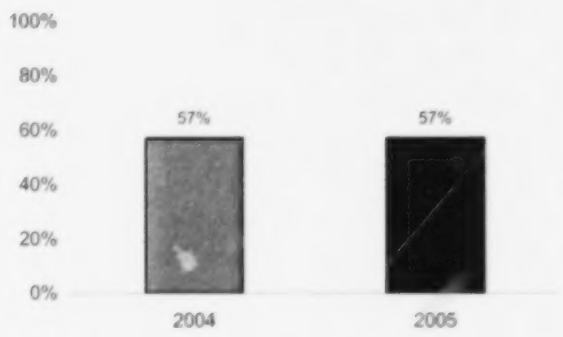
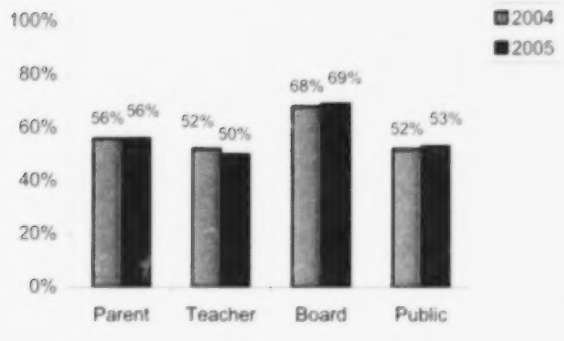


Chart 57
Satisfaction that Learning System is Highly Accountable and Communicates Effectively with the Public



In general, 69% of board members were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. However, fewer (50% to 56%) parent, teacher and public respondents were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. Respondents' satisfaction levels have been stable since previous survey (see *Chart 57*).

RCO OUTCOME E.9: Effective and facilitative leadership supports teaching and learning.

Measure E.9: Percentage of parent, public, staff and board satisfaction that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial levels effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning.

Overall Results: Overall, 69% of parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial levels effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning. There has been a decrease in the respondents' level of satisfaction with respect to leadership since 2004. However, the scope of the measure was changed in 2005 to include board members and questions about leadership at a provincial level, and this may have had an impact on the results (see *Chart 58*).

Chart 58
Overall Satisfaction that the Leadership at the School, School Board, and Provincial Levels Effectively Supports and Facilitates Teaching and Learning

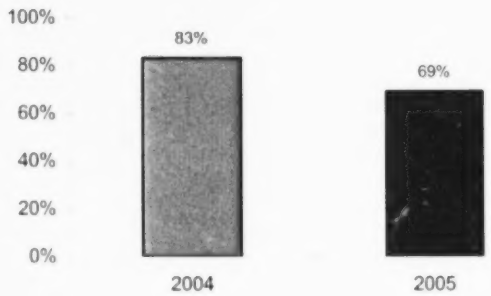
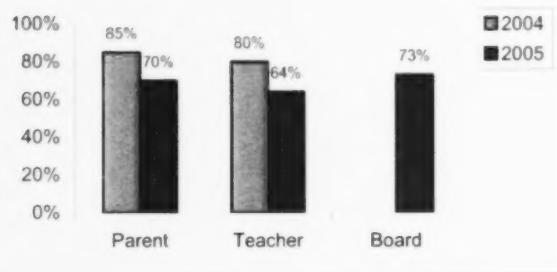


Chart 59
Satisfaction that the Leadership at the School, School Board and Provincial Level Effectively Supports and Facilitates Teaching and Learning



In general, 64% or more parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that the leadership at school, jurisdiction and province supports and facilitates teaching and learning. There was a decrease in the parents' and teachers' satisfaction level with leadership since the previous survey period possibly due to the inclusion of a new question about leadership at a provincial level in 2005 (see *Chart 59*). These results should be interpreted with caution.

Facilities

RCO OUTCOME F.1: Facilities meet the learning needs of students and the program delivery needs of staff.

Measure F1.1: Percentage of parent, student, staff and board satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the leaning needs of students.

Overall Results: Overall, 68% of students, parents, teachers and board members were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students. Results were similar to the previous survey (see *Chart 60*).

Chart 60
Overall Satisfaction that School Facilities, Space and Equipment Meet the Learning Needs of Students

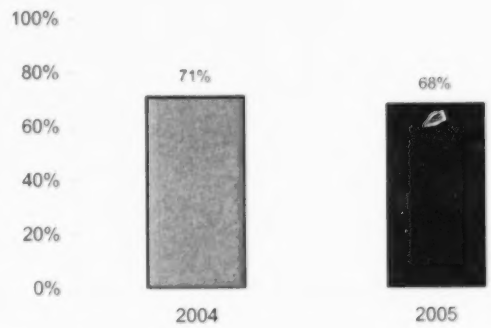
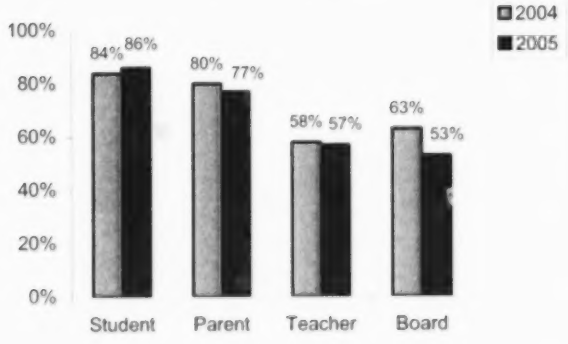


Chart 61
Satisfaction that School Facilities, Space and Equipment Meet the Learning Needs of Students - By Respondent Groups



In general, 86% of students and 77% of parents were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students. However, fewer (53% to 57%) teachers and board members were satisfied that these aspects of student learning needs are being met. Board members' satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students has declined by 10% since 2004 (see *Chart 61*).

Measure F.1.2: Percentage of parent, student, staff and board satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff.

Overall Results: Overall, 54% of teachers and board members were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff. Overall satisfaction for this measure is not significantly different from the previous survey (see *Chart 62*).

Chart 62
Overall Satisfaction that Facilities, Space and Equipment Meet the Program Delivery Needs of Staff

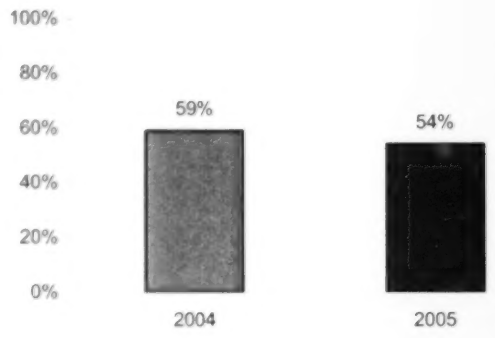
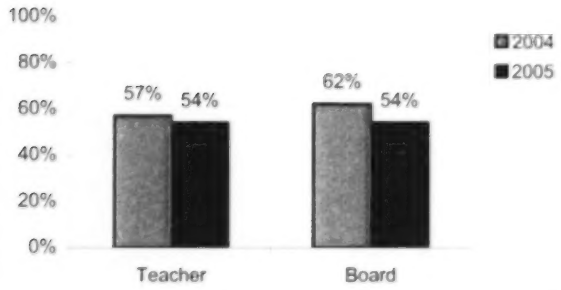


Chart 63
Satisfaction that Facilities, Space and Equipment Meet the Program Delivery Needs of Staff - By Respondent Group



In general, 54% of both teachers and board members were satisfied that facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff. Board members' satisfaction that facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff has declined by 8% since the previous survey in 2004. Students, parents, and public were not included in this survey measure (see *Chart 63*).

RCO OUTCOME F.2: Facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community.

Measure F2.2: Percentage of students, staff and community satisfaction that facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community.

Overall Results: Overall, 85% of students, parents, teachers and the public were satisfied that school facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community. The overall satisfaction level for this measure is similar to that of the previous survey (see *Chart 64*).

Chart 64
Overall Satisfaction that Facilities Meet the Physical Needs of Students, Staff and the Community

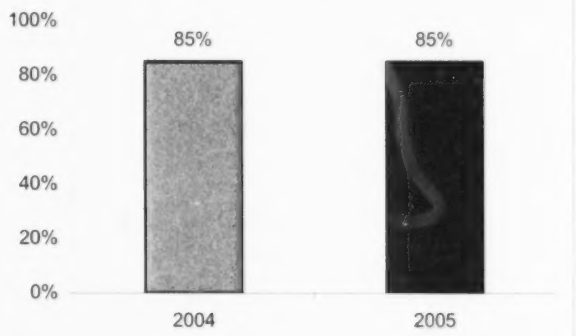
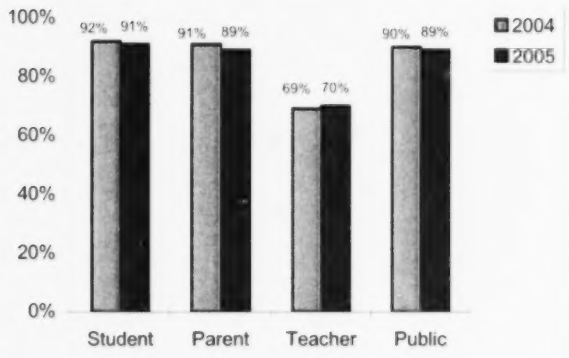


Chart 65
Satisfaction that Facilities Meet the Physical Needs of Students, Staff and the Community



A large majority of students (91%), parents (89%) and the public (89%) were satisfied that school facilities meet their physical needs of students, staff, and the community. However, relatively fewer (70%) teachers were satisfied that facilities meet their physical needs. Satisfaction levels for this measure are consistent with the previous survey results (see *Chart 65*).

Appendix

Sample Sizes and Confidence Intervals in the Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys

Alberta Education annually commissions telephone satisfaction surveys of random samples of the Alberta public, teachers, board members, senior high school students and parents of ECS-Grade 12 students. The purpose of these surveys is to obtain perceptions of how the Education system is performing in meeting learners' and society's needs and expectations. Professional survey research firms are contracted to conduct the surveys for Alberta Education, using trained interviewers and the Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. Survey results are compiled by the survey research firms and provided to Alberta Education.

The following table provides sampling information about the Satisfaction with Education in Alberta surveys (public, teachers, board members, senior high school students and parents of ECS-Grade 12 students) conducted by Alberta Education. The information includes the respondent groups surveyed, corresponding sample sizes and the confidence intervals for results from each survey. Results are considered accurate within the confidence interval 19 times out of 20 (i.e., at a confidence level of 95%). Sampling variation can account for observed differences in results from year to year.

Survey	Sample/Confidence Interval	2004	2005
Public	Sample	2,000	3,000
	Confidence interval	±2.2%	±1.8%
Parents of ECS to grade 12 students	Sample	800	800
	Confidence interval	±3.5%	±3.5%
Senior high school students	Sample	800	800
	Confidence interval	±3.5%	±3.5%
Teachers	Sample	800	806
	Confidence Interval	±3.5%	±3.5%
School board members	Sample	487 out of a population of 643	350 out of a population of 560 (excluding superintendents)
	Confidence Interval	±2.2%	±3.2%

Unless otherwise noted, the survey instruments for these satisfaction surveys use four-point response scales ("Very Satisfied/Satisfied/Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied" or "Strongly Agree/ Agree/Disagree/Strongly Disagree"), depending on the question. Although not asked, "Don't Know" responses and refusals are recorded as well. Results presented are the combined percentages of respondents who were "very satisfied/satisfied" or who "strongly agreed/agreed". The survey results are available online at: http://www.Education.gov.ab.ca/pubstats/research.asp.